From: Beth DeHaven
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/25/02 9:56pm
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

I have worked in this industry for 25 years. Anyone that believes Microsoft has harmed the consumer has got to be kidding. Microsoft has driven the cost of computing down to the point that those of us trying to sell technology solutions can barely make a living. It has been GREAT for the consumer. I only wish Microsoft would enter the furniture or clothing markets. Maybe then those goods would operate on a more reasonable profit model.

I believe that the DOJ case in great part is the result of a bunch of competitors that can't figure out a better way to try to improve their market position. Consumers will decide if they don't want to do business with a particular company. Get it out of the courts. This case needs to be behind us. Settle it in a fair manner and then maybe my technology stock portfolio will start to improve. This case is like a dark cloud over the entire tech industry.